

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

September 14, 2004

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Cecil L. “Chip” Murray, a driven and passionate visionary, a valiant and heroic servant of his country, a devoted and pious man of God, and a beloved son, father, and husband, was born the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 1929. A native Floridian, he received his undergraduate degree from Florida A&M University and his Doctorate in Religion from The School of Theology at Claremont. Dr. Murray served his country proudly for 10 years of active duty on flying status with the United States Air Force as a Jet Radar Intercept Officer and has served his community proudly for 27 years as Reverend at First African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Cecil L. “Chip” Murray was assigned to First AME Church, the oldest black church in Los Angeles, in 1977 where at that time his church family consisted of 300 active members. Under the leadership of Dr. Murray, its congregation has grown to over 17,000 members and over 40 community task forces, including task forces for substance abuse, homelessness, emergency food and clothing, tutoring, health, housing, entrepreneurial training, employment services, and numerous other endeavors which serve to educate and uplift community morale. His ministry also oversees a \$4 million housing facility for the physically handicapped, 12 dwelling units for general public low-income housing totaling \$35 million, a \$5 million transportation program for seniors and the handicapped, and the Cecil L. Murray Education Center for grades K-8; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Murray’s ability to go above and beyond the call of duty is not only recognized here today, but has been abundantly evident in the past. In 1958 he was recipient of the Soldier’s Medal of Valor following an explosion in his two-seated fighter. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.’ recognized him as their “Man of the Year” in 1951; in 1990 President George Bush named the First AME Church the 177<sup>th</sup> Point of Light for its courageous outreach in community service. For his community and societal impact he has been featured in Time Magazine, Ebony Magazine, The Los Angeles Times, on CNN Network News, The Los Angeles 900, and numerous other print and television media outlets; and

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles does hereby proclaim the week of September 20<sup>th</sup> thru September 26<sup>th</sup> as “Rev. Dr. Cecil L. ‘Chip’ Murray” Week throughout the County of Los Angeles in recognition of his many years of outstanding service to the Church and the community.

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MOTION

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